



SACHI A. HAMAI
Chief Executive Officer

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

May 13, 2016

To: Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Chair
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Sachi A. Hamai 
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

SHEILA KUEHL
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

WASHINGTON, D.C. UPDATE ON THE SENATE PASSAGE OF FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2017 ENERGY AND WATER APPROPRIATIONS LEGISLATION

This memorandum is to provide the Board with an update on the Senate Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2017 Energy and Water appropriations bill (H.R. 2028), which the Senate passed, by a vote of 90 to 8, on May 12, 2016.

FFY 2017 Senate Energy and Water Appropriations Legislation

The Senate-passed bill increases total funding by \$355 million to \$37.5 billion in FFY 2017, including an \$11 million increase for the Army Corps of Engineers.

Of importance to the County, the bill provides an increase to the appropriation for the Corps' operation and maintenance of the Los Angeles County Drainage Area (LACDA) system from \$7.3 million to \$17.4 million in FFY 2017, as requested by the President and supported by the County. In addition to the \$7.3 million appropriated in FFY 2016 for LACDA, the Corps' allocated \$4.6 million in additional FFY 2016 funding to LACDA to prepare for the El Niño storms at the County's request.

To comply with a Congressional budget rule which requires appropriations bills to originate in the House, the text of the Senate FFY 2017 Energy and Water appropriations bill was previously amended into H.R. 2028, which is last year's House-passed Energy and Water appropriations bill.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

***Please Conserve Paper – This Document and Copies are Two-Sided
Intra-County Correspondence Sent Electronically Only***

Legislative Outlook

Passing all of the 12 individual FFY 2017 appropriations bills is one of Senate Majority Leader McConnell's top priorities. In order to meet this priority, the Senate cannot wait for the House to pass FFY 2017 appropriations bills, especially when the House has not been able to reach agreement on the overall discretionary spending limits for FFY 2017. Timing is also a limiting factor, since this year's Congressional recess extends from July 16, 2016 until September 6, 2016. However, it remains far from certain that all 12 appropriations bills can be passed by the Senate in regular order, prior to the end of the fiscal year.

The House Appropriations Committee approved its version of the FFY 2017 Energy and Water appropriations bill on April 19, 2016, and consideration of this measure on the House Floor has not been scheduled. Similar to the Senate-approved bill, the House version also increases funding for the Corps' operation and maintenance of the LACDA system from \$7.3 million in FFY 2016 to \$17.4 million in FFY 2017.

The House bill also includes report language directing the Corps to evaluate methods where the Los Angeles County Flood Control District might assume a greater role in the operation and maintenance of the Corps' infrastructure and report if an increased role by the District can more effectively utilize budgeted funds in a manner that reduces flood risk and increases stormwater capture which would provide a more sustainable local source of water. The County requested this language through Representative Roybal-Allard, who serves on the House Appropriations Committee. The House version also includes policy riders which are opposed by the Obama Administration and would likely trigger a veto threat by the President.

We will continue to keep you advised.

SAH:JJ:MR
OR:ma

c: All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist